

Serial No.: 10/065,336
Attorney Docket No.: F-575

Patent

REMARKS

1. Status of Claims

Claims 1, 6-12, and 16-27 were pending in the Application. Applicants have amended claims 1, 12 and 23-26 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully requests entry of the above amendments and consideration of the enclosed remarks. Applicants submit that no new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1, 6-12, and 16-27 will remain pending in the application.

2. Rejection under 35 USC § 112

In section 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6-12, and 16-27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claims 1, 12 and 24 as suggested. In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1, 6-12 and 16-27 are allowable subject matter subject to overcoming the rejection of this section.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is moot and that the amended claim complies with 35 U.S.C. section 112 and Applicants respectfully request that the examiner withdraw the rejection.

3. Claim Objections

In section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 23-27 due to certain formalities. Applicants have amended claims 23-26 for cosmetic reasons as suggested. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the examiner withdraw the objections.

4. Conclusion Of Remarks

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted concurrently herewith under separate cover.

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For at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance and early and favorable action thereon is requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (203) 924-3180.

5. Authorization

No fee is believed due with this Amendment. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the response or credit any overpayment to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-575.

In the event that an extension of time or additional extension of time is required to make this response timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-575.

Respectfully submitted,


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